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18. (Amended) A cell containing and capable of expressing at least one DNA construct of [any of] claim[s] 1 [-13].

a3
24. (Amended) A ligand capable of binding to two or more chimeric protein molecules of claim[s] 1 [-9] to form an oligomer thereof, said ligand having the formula:

linker- {rbm1, rbm2, ...rbmn}

wherein n is an integer from 2 to about 5, rbm(1)-rbm(n) are receptor binding moieties which may be the same or different and which are capable of binding to the chimeric protein(s), said rbm moieties being covalently attached to a linker moiety which is a bi- or multi-functional molecule capable of being covalently linked ("") to two or more rbm moieties.

36. (Amended) A kit which comprises at least one DNA construct of [any of] claim[s] 1 [-9].

Remarks

This preliminary amendment merely cancels claims 2-5, 7-13, 15-16, 19, 25-28, 33-34, 39-42, and 44-45 and amends the dependency of claims 14, 17, 18, 24 and 36. No new matter has been added.

Conclusion

If a telephone conversation with Applicant's Attorney would expedite prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is urged to call the undersigned at (617) 832-1000.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: August 31, 2000